

On page 5, lines 15 and 16, please amend this paragraph as follows:

~~Fig. 5~~Figs. 5a and 5b the plastic carrier having a mesh of reinforcing fibers introduced.

On page 5, line 18 through page 6, line 5, please amend this paragraph as follows:

The construction of a drag chain conveyor having the aforementioned features can be derived in detail from ~~WO 01/81211 A1~~US2004/0140178, which is mentioned as the closest state of the art, so that reference is made thereto. As can be seen from Figure 1, the connection of a plastic carrier 10 with the annular chain links 13 of the two central chains 11 and 12 is formed in that during the casting or molding around of the chain links 13, the plastic or synthetic material matrix penetrates and surrounds the chain links 13 of the two central chains 11 and 12. For the reinforcement of the plastic matrix, reinforcing fibers 14 having a short length are randomly distributed in the plastic carrier.

On page 5, line 17, please insert the following heading:

--Description of Specific Embodiments--.

On page ⁷~~18~~, after line ¹²~~7~~, please insert the following two new paragraphs:

--The specification incorporates by reference the disclosure of German priority document 102 54 970.2 filed November 26, 2002 and PCT/EP2003/012993 filed November 20, 2003.

The present invention is, of course, in no way restricted to the specific disclosure of the specification and drawings, but also encompasses any modifications within the scope of the appended claims.--

In addition, please add the attached abstract to the specification.

MR
9-26-06